## SENATOR CARLO LEONE

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## State of Connecticut SENATE

Twenty-seventh District

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Finance, Revenue & Bonding Committee
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Testimony by:
Senator Carlo Leone- 27<sup>th</sup> District
S.B. 863: An Act Concerning Employment Protection for Members of the Civil Air Patrol
March 7, 2019

Good morning Senator Maroney, Representative Borer, and honorable members of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in favor of proposed S.B. 863 - An Act Concerning Employment Protection for Members of the Civil Air Patrol. This bill would prohibit an employer from discriminating against, disciplining or discharging their employee if they are an active member of the Civil Air Patrol and get called to respond to an emergency.

In the event of being called to respond to such an emergency, natural disaster, or life-threatening event - the employee may leave work without loss of pay, vacation or sick time.

Currently, reservists from the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy enjoy certain federal protections under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA). This act protects their job while they are called to service. Many reservists wouldn't be able to serve in the armed forces without these protections. S.B. 863 would offer the same protections, on a state level, for members of the Civil Air Patrol that are called to duty.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, I am ready and eager to assist in any way that you may find helpful.

Sincerely,

Carlo Leone